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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/816,803	03/23/2001	Lubomir D. Bourdev	07844-487001	5829
21876	7590	03/18/2004	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. 3300 DAIN RAUSCHER PLAZA MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			ALAVI, AMIR	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2621	

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/816,803

Applicant(s)

BOURDEV ET AL. *mn*

Examiner

Amir Alavi

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 and 27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

- The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.
- Claim 17 is objected to because of the following informalities: wherein claim 17 is dependent upon itself.
- Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

- The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

- Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sandrew (US 5,534,915).

Regarding claim 26, Sandrew discloses, wherein multiple sub-regions defined by one or more clipping paths of original outlines of objects associated with the region (Please note figures 3 and 4, in this regard region 40 of figure 3 has been divided into three distinct sub-regions 50, 52 and 54), wherein each sub-region has a color value that is different from color values of other sub-regions in the region (Please note, figure 4 in correlation to column 6, lines 16-26. As indicated a region has been divided into three sub-regions, wherein each sub-region correspond to different color values stored in the look up table 62).

Allowable Subject Matter

- Claims 1-25 and 27 are allowed.
- The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: None of the prior art disclose or fairly suggest wherein defining a planar-mapping outline for each object, the planar-mapping outline of each selected object being an enclosing outline that encloses the object, and the planar-mapping outline of each object not selected being the original outline of the object and using the planar-mapping outlines of all the objects to divide the image into non-overlapping regions.

Other prior art cited

- The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Einkauf (US 5,841,443) is pertinent as teaching method for triangle subdivision in computer graphics texture mapping to eliminate artifacts in high perspective polygons.

Henderson et al. (US 6,011,595) is pertinent as teaching method for segmenting a digital image into a foreground region and a key color region.

Greene et al. (US 5,600,763) is pertinent as teaching error-bounded antialiased rendering of complex scenes.

Krabbenhof (US 6,389,161 B1) is pertinent as teaching method of interpolation in an N-Dimensional color space.

Kaup (US 6,553,139 B1) is pertinent as teaching computer-assisted process and device for processing the image points of an image segment.

Valdes et al. (US 5,589,851) is pertinent as teaching multi-level to bi-level shape converter.

Wobermin et al. (US 5,153,937) is pertinent as teaching system for generating anti-aliased video signal.

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Barkans et al. (US 5,649,083) is pertinent as teaching system and method for dithering and quantizing image data to optimize visual quality of a color recovered image.

Mizukami (US 5,818,962) is pertinent as teaching coordinate transformation method for binary image.

Contact Information

- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Amir Alavi whose telephone number is (703) 306-5913.
- The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Leo Boudreau, can be reached at (703) 305-4706.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

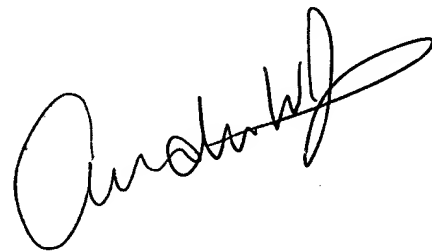
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, ("draft" or "informal" communications should be clearly
labeled to expedite delivery to Examiner)

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal
Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist). Any inquiry of a general nature or
relating to the status of this application should be directed to the T.C. Customer Service
Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew W. Johns', written in a cursive style.

**ANDREW W. JOHNS
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

AA
Group Art Unit 2621
10 February 2004